

## These Prominent Colored Men Urge Every Negro to Vote For the Franchise



HERMAN L. KINSLER,  
RENTAL AND REAL ESTATE AGENT.

Office at 918 East 21st St. Phone, Bell, Grand 2303R; Home, Main 6516.  
Mr. Kinsler is one of the shrewdest and most prosperous young business men in Kansas City. By his safe investments he has accumulated quite a deal of real estate in Kansas City. He is a member of the Kansas City Negro Business League and a Master Mason of Rose Lodge No. 25. He is an ardent supporter of the Metropolitan Franchise and believes every colored man should vote for it.

### Editor of the Kansas City Sun:

This is an appeal to all Negroes through your paper to give the coming Franchise election an unbiased and practical consideration. As you are no doubt aware the Kansas City Star is urging a better campaign against this franchise and many of us will no doubt let the Star think for us and be influenced by it. There is in my humble opinion no politics in this franchise or should not be at least, but instead is just a business matter between a corporation and each individual citizen; each citizen should be his own judge in this matter. I am not going to ask anyone to vote as I am, for I've told no one how I shall vote, but before voting or rather before reaching a conclusion I would like to present to you for consideration a few facts. As a race of people, it matters little what kind of a franchise is accepted, since our social status remains the same. At present, the enemies of the Metropolitan are using the future as a club to fight with, and if we could feel assured of a man's consideration in the affairs of the future, instead of a Negro's consideration, there is not better ground for opposition to this franchise than that thirty years added to the present unexpired term is too long, and too much of a burden on our children's shoulders. But as matters now stand, I should see no reason for dissatisfaction in the present condition of affairs so far as regards our street car system. Nowhere in the country can we get more liberal transfers (stopovers) than we get in Kansas City, or ride farther for a nickel, no matter who runs the cars, it means to us a nickel ride. But my strongest reason for being in favor of the franchise lies in the fact that the very strongest enemies of this franchise are also the enemies of the Negro. Read the Star for the list of those opposed to it and you will see very few who are large employers of Negroes; those who are strongest in favor of municipal ownership, would be the first ones to dispose of all Negro help and put Mexicans or Greeks exclusively in the places. As matters now stand, the Metropolitan hires hundreds of Negroes in various capacities, three of them live in the block in which I live. What does this mean to us as a race of people? It means in my opinion a reduction in the number of idle Negroes, a reduction in the number of distressed and otherwise suffering Negroes; 60 per cent of the men now employed on the streets by the Metropolitan are fit for no other kind of work. During the past winter many of them would no doubt have been on the mercies of the people and charitable institutions but for the fact that the Metropolitan gave them work and I think, that to the able bodied, the giving of employment is the best form of charity. So in view of the fact that they have proven their friendship for us by giving numbers of our race work and we cannot swear that any other corporation would. Let us protect a certainty by expressing our approval of this franchise, since anyone who helps one Negro, no matter how slight, helps all the Negroes.

of people who fight corporations fight us and were it not for the open shop corporations around Kansas City what would it mean to us as wage earners with every avenue of employment unionized against us. The Met. is an open shop concern, let's help them out.

O. U. GUESS IT,  
2512 Vine.



Mr. GEO. W. TEETERS,  
for twenty-five years a Bank Messenger who is enthusiastically supporting the Franchise.

### A STAG IN HONOR OF MR. OSBORNE CREWS.

By Chas. A. Starks.

A soft Italian night—with the richest blue sky, brilliant with stars twinkling and sparkling—a quiet with people of color—automobiles go street though generously inhabited and coming, passing and repassing—a lawn the length of two front yards dotted here and there with tables for cards and refreshments—near three score men seated at these tables, talking and laughing and eating and drinking (punch)—conversing about those things that business men, lawyers, doctors and other professionals would likely discuss. Such was the case at 2624 Highland avenue. It was indeed a representative body of Kansas Citizens who had been informally gathered by our esteemed editor—Nelson C. Crews, to meet in a social hour or two and forget for a brief spell the weightier questions of the day and partake of the rich and bountiful hospitality of the genial host. The real occasion was given in honor of Osborne Crews, son of Mr. James H. Crews, the veteran Mail Carrier of this city, and worthy citizen. The young man appears to stand advantage himself, and we are told that he also is employed in the mail service and enjoys the profitable distinction of being in the very first division of the line of clerks. Add to this the important fact that this young gentleman was soon to be married and you have the WHY of the whole affair. Certainly, anyone could have felt good, receiving the congratulations and encouragements of so many broad-gauged public men. The young benedict will take away a beautiful and lovely bride, a girl who no doubt is very dear to those who have been responsible for the right blossoming of her youth into the now glorious womanhood.

We spoke of the generous hospitality of the host in serving a well ordered repast. This was spiced seasoned with music furnished by a unique Trio of Musicians who were stationed on the veranda which was highly illuminated with electric lights. The music entertained not only the "Stags" but the entire neighborhood of residents. The beautiful night we spoke of seemed to enhance every charm indeed, one could imagine himself floating down the river as the excellent singers gave us such poetic songs as "When It's Apple Blossom Time in Normandy," "Beautiful

Dream Days of Yore," and "On My Way to Mandalay." Perhaps the dexterity of the Bass Violinist in his manipulation of his instrument amused the men most, any vaudeville performer could have gained many points by watching this eccentric but justly musical person. The following gentlemen were present:

Mr. Osborne Crews,  
Prof. H. O. Cook,  
Mr. Raymond Knox,  
Dr. C. V. Lowe,  
Mr. A. Glass,  
Prof. J. E. Herfford,  
Mr. T. B. Watkins,  
Mr. Jas. A. Lee,  
Mr. Jno. Rone,  
Prof. R. T. Coles,  
Mr. S. H. P. Edwards,  
Mr. G. W. K. Love,  
Prof. Wm. H. Dawley, Jr.,  
Mr. Robt. DeFrantz,  
Mr. Edward Baker,  
Dr. Paul Crosthwait,  
Mr. David Crosthwait,  
Mr. Shannon Freeman,  
Mr. J. E. Carpenter,  
Mr. W. W. Goshorn,  
Dr. Theo. Smith,  
Mr. E. B. Johnson,  
Mr. Felix H. Payne,  
Prof. G. A. Page,  
Mr. Robt. Bennett,  
Dr. C. C. Bunch,  
Dr. Wm. J. Thompsons,  
Dr. T. C. Chapman,  
Dr. Elmer of Mexico City,  
Dr. E. B. Ramsey,  
Dr. McQueen Gresham,  
Dar. W. Herbert Bruce,  
Mr. L. A. Knox,  
Mr. W. C. Houston,  
Mr. C. H. Calloway,  
Mr. E. Spurrill,  
Mr. Theo. Clay,  
Dr. H. M. Smith,  
Mr. Jno. M. Day,  
Dr. J. P. Shannon,  
Mr. J. C. Hobbs,  
Mr. J. E. Dibble,  
Dr. E. J. McCampbell,  
Mr. P. J. Weaver,  
Mr. C. A. Franklin,  
Prof. R. G. Jackson,  
Mr. F. W. Dabney,  
Dr. M. G. Brooks,  
Dr. T. C. Unthank,  
Mr. Lewis Woods,  
Mr. Jas. H. Crews,  
Dr. J. E. Perry,  
Dr. H. S. Gillespie,  
Rev. Dr. Wm. H. Thomas,  
Mr. Chas. A. Starks,  
Mr. A. W. Harris,  
Dr. J. E. Perry.

PROF. J. SILAS HARRIS,  
President of the National Negro Educational Congress and for thirty years a teacher in Kansas City, who urges every Negro who has the interest of his race and city at heart, to vote on July 7 for the Metropolitan Franchise.

### MAGNETIC EFFECT BY VOLUNTEER MEETING.

The Pleasant Green Auditorium Audience Appreciative and Attentive.

### PLAUSIBLE ARGUMENTS CREATING.

Aggravate Drift of Afro-American Minds.

"Let Us Forget: United We Stand."

### SECCULAR AND SPIRITUAL NEEDS COMPOUNDED.

Professor G. C. Hughes, Hon. C. A. Franklin and the Secretary Speak.

Dr. G. McNeal in the same large auditorium where he had just preached the Annual Masonic sermon, raised \$161.65 in the collection and Miss Ruelah Douglass played some of the sweetest music we ever heard from such an instrument as she played; the volunteer band of the Business League enjoyed an impressive, convincing and winning meeting last Sunday evening, June 27.

Dr. McNeal lent able assistance and also stamped upon our minds the fact that his church is a pioneer for Negro thrift and business progress.

Mr. Wiley Hyde, president of the B. Y. P. U., requested Prof. G. C. Hughes and the secretary to talk to the young people. Hon. C. A. Franklin spoke eloquently as usual. The meeting was at once commanding, instructing and elevating. Phyllis Wheatley, Ida Wells Barnett, Mrs. Silene Yates and many other noble women were mentioned as sterling examples of merit among us of worthy womanhood, to whom a glowing tribute was paid of undying honor and lasting fame and glory; which will ever bless the grand women of the Afro-American race whenever related or read. As he has been, is being and will be hung apart, the black men by sheer force of necessity should as the epitome of common sense learn to hang together. White men of principle want to see us united. We must read Negro papers, Negro periodicals, Negro magazines, and Negro books to be in accord with the onward and upward march of the race and also to realize the import of that impregnable, uncompromising, irrefutable, slow but sure God-given slogan, "On, Men of Ethiopia, On." Ethics, logical reason and valid facts lead us to true ideal standards. Let us intelligently mold such thought as will eventually insure a proper destiny for the Afro-American in any and all fields of honest endeavor. Lift up your heads! And with courage in your hearts, move on to certain victory.

Next Sunday night there will be a volunteer meeting of the Negro Business League for the commercial and industrial uplift of the race, in the C. M. E. Church between Fourth and Fifth on Oakland avenue.

Yours for Negro enterprise,  
E. A. ROBINSON.

Chief Grand Mentor A. R. Chinn of the Knights of Tabor, will be in the city July 4-7, making his annual visit. He desires to meet all members July 6th.



MR. F. J. WEAVER,  
President of the Afro-American Realty and Investment Co. who predicts that the Franchise will carry with 5,000 majority.

Read the Commercial Club Report as it appears in full on the second page of the Sun and if you have confidence in the business leaders of this community, Vote for the Franchise.



PROF. T. W. H. WILLIAMS,  
one of the race's foremost scholars, who believes the Franchise will overwhelmingly carry.



HON. S. H. P. EDWARDS,  
One of the most prominent Negro Masons in this country and the owner of several pieces of valuable property in this city who believes every Negro in Kansas City should vote for the franchise.

C. H. Calloway and W. C. Houston, attorneys-at-law, desire to announce that they have moved their law offices from 117 West 6th street, to 601 Delaware street, where they are prepared to meet their clients and friends. Home phone Main 58.



MR. THOS. A. RICE,  
a leading Contractor who is unreservedly for the adoption of the Franchise.

The new Ward Hall at Western University is to be dedicated today at 1 o'clock by the presiding bishop, H. B. Parks, D. D., and the ministers of the African Methodist Episcopal Church of the fifth Episcopal district. A large crowd is expected to be in attendance.

## ROBERT HARRIS ACQUITTED OF MURDER

Man Who Killed Two Police Officers in Protecting His Aged Father and Mother Acquitted at 5 O'clock Last Saturday by a Jury of Honorable, Fair Minded White Men

## ONCE SENTENCED TO HANG

Masons Deserve Much Praise for the Splendid Manner in Which They Rallied to His Defense.

Denver, Colo.—Robert Harris, formerly of Kansas City, and a member of R. T. Coles Lodge No. 86, A. F. & A. M., Kansas City, Mo., was acquitted today.

These few lines flashed over the telegraph wires contained a world of meaning to those men who have watched carefully the progress of this case which is probably familiar to every member of the Negro Masonic fraternity in this country. Much credit is due Hon. Titus S. Rector, Grand Master of Colorado, E. J. Hawkins, Grand Master of Kansas, the Grand Master of Missouri, and Past Grand Master R. T. Coles, as well as a number of Negro newspapers for the raising of the funds to secure the new trial.

As many of our readers may not be familiar with the facts we reproduce the following appeal that was sent out by Robert Harris several months ago and that has been published continuously in the Sun:

FIGHTING FOR LIFE.  
Father and Son, Because the Latter Tried to Protect His Aged Parents—Let Us All Help Financially.

Colorado State Penitentiary.

Hon. N. C. Crews, Dear Sir: I am enclosing herewith a copy of a decision handed down by the supreme court of Colorado in regard to my case, which was hastily tried in district court of Otero county at La Junta, Colo., in July, 1911, where I was instantly convicted and sentenced to death and my aged father, a man of near 83 years, was also convicted as an accomplice and sentenced from 30 to 50 years at hard labor in state penitentiary. I was sentenced to death for protecting my aged father and mother, in their own home, and my life at the cost of the lives of the two brutal, inhuman, prejudiced, Negro-hating, lawless policemen who were assaulting my mother and father, and seeking to murder me.

But after being denied a new trial by the judge trying my case, my attorney, Ex-Judge Lyman I. Henry of Pueblo, Colo., assisted by W. B. Townsend, attorney-at-law of Denver, Colo., aided at great expense by good citizens of both races and members of my lodge, the R. T. Coles lodge, No. 86, A. F. and A. M., Kansas City, Mo., and my father's, Prudent lodge, No. 6, A. F. and A. M., Kansas City, Kas., I succeeded in getting our case to the

supreme court, which readily reversed the judgment of the lower court, and granted me a new trial which will soon come.

Now, dear sir, the fight has just commenced as the prejudiced class in that community are determined that the sentence imposed on my father and myself be carried out, and they will use every means in their power to gain their hellish ends, and to thwart all in their desire to see me get justice. I appeal to you for financial aid, if you can assist me in any way through the columns of your paper, or otherwise, to meet the financial demands involved, it will be greatly appreciated. My reason for sending you a copy of the supreme court's decision and comments, is for you to see clearly it was not an act trying or attempting to defy the law in any way, but one of protecting my parents and my life. I again beg to state that I am a worthy member of R. T. Coles lodge, No. 86, Kansas City, Mo., and my father, Joseph Harris, of Prudent lodge, No. 6, Kansas City, Kas., being a 32 degree man and a 33 degree gentleman. So I appeal to you most earnestly, that you may do for us what you can. You may refer to your respective lodges as to our standing. Should you feel disposed to aid us, forward same to my mother, Mrs. Clara Harris, No. 1319 River street, Canon City, Colo., as she is striving to gain us justice and every one looks to her to be paid for any expense incurred in helping father and me. Please acknowledge receipt to me. Hoping for your assistance, I am, Yours respectfully and fraternally in A. F. and A. M.,

ROBERT HARRIS,  
No. 1319, Colorado State Prison,  
Canon City, Colorado.

Much credit is also due Judge Lyman I. Henry, the attorney who so ably handled the case from beginning to end, and the Colored people not only of Colorado, but of the entire country will ever hold him in high esteem. Judge Henry says that a writ of habeas corpus will be issued at once asking for the release of the father, and doubtless ere this time he has also been given his freedom. The Kansas City lodges contributed more than \$250 in the trial of the two cases and it is needless to say they are pleased with the outcome. Full particulars with the history of the case and the incidents of the trial will be given in our next issue.



MR. A. T. MOORE,  
Kansas City's leading and popular Undertaker, who says "that which helps Kansas City helps the Negro and every Negro should help Kansas City by voting for the Franchise."



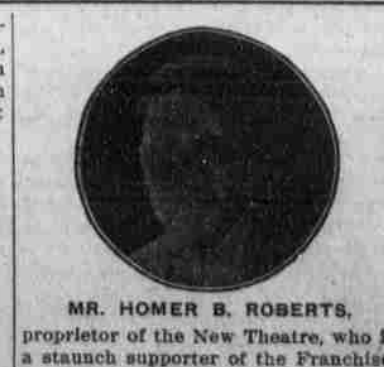
DR. LLOYD E. BAILER,  
one of Kansas City's most prominent physicians, and editor of the famous Health Hints that have appeared from time to time in The Sun, who says every Negro owes it to the community to support the Franchise.

MASS MEETING  
In the Interest of the  
Federated Colored Charities  
ALLEN CHAPEL, SUNDAY, July 12, at 3:30 p. m.  
Prominent Speakers of Both Races.  
All are Invited.

The Poro Club met with Mrs. Jacobs, 120 Mill street, Rosedale, Kans., Friday, June 26, and will meet with Mrs. Thomas, 1022 W. Thirtieth street, July 24. Those present were:

Mrs. Jacobs,  
Mrs. Thomas,  
Mrs. Gibson,  
Miss Baldwin,  
Mrs. Smith,  
Mrs. Franklin,  
Mrs. Johnson,  
Mrs. Betts,  
Mrs. Wiley.

MRS. THOMAS, Pres.  
MRS. FRANKLIN, Secy.



MR. HOMER B. ROBERTS,  
proprietor of the New Theatre, who is a staunch supporter of the Franchise.

Mr. and Mrs. Jno. Mitchell, 3417 E. 21st, entertained sixteen guests at what last Wednesday.

## FRANCHISE MEANS BIGGER TERRITORY.

End of Met. Receivership Will Give Impetus to Interurban Lines.

## BUSINESS WILL FOLLOW.

New Contract Will Benefit Working-men Most, Says W. B. Strang.

With the election but a week off, I feel confident that the franchise will pass by a vote of two to one. I make this prediction, not as an idle boast, but from coming in contact with people in every walk of life.

The banking and business interests want it because it will mean an end to the Metropolitan receivership and a renewal of confidence of the outside world in Kansas City as a business center; the retail merchants want it because it will not only mean better service on the city lines, but will be an added impetus to the development of interurban lines and the construction of an interurban terminal station, which will naturally mean a broadening of the territory from which their trade will come; and last, but not least, the workingmen want it, because they are beginning to realize that in fighting the transportation lines they are only hurting themselves, for transportation is the life of trade and when trade slackens they are the first to feel its effects.

The petition of over 300,000 employees and ex-employees of railroads to congress for a let-up on anti-railroad legislation tells better than words what this fight on the transportation facilities of our country has meant to the laboring man.

With the people in this spirit the attempt to convert Kansas City to the radicalism of Cleveland, Toledo and Detroit, with its disorganized service and a dissatisfied public is destined to fail, despite all the efforts of the "knockers."

## Knocker Has Easy Time.

The knocker has an easy time of it, as he has nothing to prove. On the other hand, he never accomplishes anything. With a few blows of his hammer he can kill a worthy enterprise, but he never can create one. The knocker was against the franchise for the Terminal company. Had he succeeded, we would never have had a Union station. The knocker never believed in parks and boulevards. Had he his way, Kansas City would be an unsightly rock pile instead of the beautiful city it is; the knocker said it was useless to try for a regional bank, St. Louis would get it anyway. But he was mistaken.



DR. WM. J. THOMPSONS,  
One of Kansas City's most eminent physicians and surgeons—white or black, who gives in this issue of The Sun many valid reasons why the Colored people of this city should support the Metropolitan franchise.

## Result Will Be Wide.

A verdict for the franchise will not only be a great thing for Kansas City, but it will be of greater importance to the general field of transportation all over the world. Where in days gone by the people realized the need of adequate transportation facilities and furthered their development, in late years there has arisen a class of reformers that have looked upon railroads as creatures of the evil one, and with a zeal worthy of the days of witch-burning, they have sought to destroy them, and they have nearly succeeded.

But this fanatical feeling is dying out and the people are coming back to the days when they assisted rather than fought our transportation lines. And so the country is awaiting our verdict on Tuesday next. If the franchise wins, as I know it will, it will mean a turning back of the wave that has wrecked transportation facilities wherever it has reached, throwing thousands out of employment and stagnating business, and with the receding of the wave will come a renewed confidence in the stability of transportation securities; money now being hoarded up will be seeking investment, and a general boom in business will result. Let Kansas City flash this verdict to the world and it will have accomplished more for its own prosperity and growth and for the general prosperity of the country than a hundred Union depots and all the regional banks, for it will have marked the turning point of the tide against the transit lines of our cities, and will blaze the way for a new era of cooperation between the people and its transportation facilities so necessary for the development and prosperity of our country.

W. B. STRANG.